

Message Text

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ACTION AID-59

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-25 ISO-00 PC-15 USIE-00 IO-13 DODE-00

AGR-20 ACDA-19 INT-08 COME-00 SSO-00 DRC-01 RSC-01

/172 W

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O P 171000Z SEP 73

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3213

INFO USEC BRUSSELS PRIORITY 8443

AMEMBASSY ROME PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY BAMAKO

AMEMBASSY NOUACKHOTT

AMEMBASSY NIAMEY

AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU

AMEMBASSY FORT LAMY

AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE

AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

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AFDROUGHT

AIDAC: DAKAR; NIAMEY, YAOUNDE FOR RDO'S; ABIDJAN FOR REDSO;
USEC BRUSSELS FOR MARTIN; ROME FOR SKILES

E.O. 11652:N/A

SUBJECT: SAHEL TASK FORCE

REF: A) BRUSSELS 2524; B) SPENCER/HELMAN DISCUSSIONS, ORLY,
9/14; C) AUDIBERT/HELMAN MEETING OF 9/14; D) HOBSON/HELMAN TELCON
OF 9/14; E) MARTIN/HELMAN TELCON OF 9/14; F) STATE 183506;
G) STATE 183918

SUMMARY: ARRANGEMENTS BEING MADE FOR SAHEL TASK FORCE MEETINGS
WITH FED, AFTERNOON WED, 9/19 AND THURS 9/20; AND WITH FRENCH,
BEGINNING FRIDAY 9/21 AND CARRYING INTO WEEK OF 9/24. ENTIRE
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TASK FORCE WILL HAVE BRIEFINGS WITH FED OR FAC COUNTERPARTS

FOLLOWING ARRIVAL BRUSSELS/PARIS AFTER WHICH SEPARATE MEETINGS WILL BE ARRANGED FOR FEI TEAM AND MIT GROUP. IN PARIS, FAC WILL COORDINATE ALL ACTIVITIES FOR FEI TEAMS; AUDIBERT PROPOSES SINGLE COORDINATION ROLE FOR GOF FOR MIT GROUP FOR WHICH HE SUGGESTS SEDES. END SUMMARY.

1. CONFIRM THAT TEAM ARRIVAL BRUSSELS, NOON, WED, SEPT 19 AND PARIS, 20:00, THURS, SEPT. 20 SATISFACTORY. HOTEL RESERVATIONS PARIS AND BRUSSELS BEING SOUGHT. FOR 14 TEAM MEMBERS. PROFESSIONAL TRANSLATOR WILL BE HIRED IN BRUSSELS AND PARIS FOR MIT GROUP.

2. AUDIBERT INDICATED REF C THAT FULL DAY OF BRIEFINGS FOR SUBJECT TASK FORCE, INCLUDING MIT PARTICIPANTS, WOULD BE ORGANIZED FRIDAY, SEPT 21. FORMAL PRESENTATION WILL NOT BE MADE BY FAC AND TASK FORCE SHOULD ORGANIZE QUESTIONS TO BE PUT TO FRENCH TECHNICIANS. FAC WOULD THEN SET UP OTHER MEETINGS FOR FEI TRAM WITH TECHNICIANS/OTHER AGENCIES AS APPROPRIATE. MEETINGS WITH BCEAO AND CAISSE CENTRALE WOULD BE SCHEDULED MONDAY OR TUESDAY. SEPARATE MEETINGS COULD THEN BE ARRANGED FOR MIT GROUPS. IF AUDIBERT'S PROPOSAL, PARA 3 BELOW, IS ACCEPTED, SEDES REPRESENTATIVE AS WELL AS IRAT AND BRGM WOULD ATTEND FRIDAY BRIEFING.

3. AUDIBERT RECOGNIZED THAT MIT GROUP WOULD WANT TO HAVE DIFFERENT CONTACTS FROM TEI TEAM AND THAT ATTENTION WOULD BE DIRECTED MORE TO SCIENTIFIC/ACADEMIC/STUDY EXPERTISE OF GOF. NONETHELESS, AUDIBERT INDICATED HIS DESIRE THAT MIT GROUP NOT BE MAKING RANDOM CONTACTS ALL ACROSS GOF, BUT THAT GOF HAVE SINGLE COORDINATOR RESPONSIBLE TO PROVIDE LIAISON FOR MIT DURING VISIT; HE SUGGESTED THIS BE SEDES. AUDIBERT HAD CLEARED IDEA WITH SOMEONE AT MINISTERIAL LEVEL POSSIBLE DENIAU, BUT HAD NOT RAISED SUGGESTION WITH SEDES. REQUEST AID/W AND MIT PRIORITY CONFIRMATION THAT THIS APPROACH ACCEPTABLE.

4. HELMAN ASKED WHETHER THE DECISION TO HIRE SEDES REFLECTED THE INTENTION THAT SEDES MIGHT HAVE A FOLLOW-ON ROLE IN THE MIT WORK. AUDIBERT RESPONDED THAT (1) HE VIEWED THE STUDY AS AN MIT EFFORT; AND (2) GOF DID NOT PLAN TO FINANCE MORE THAN SEDES LIAISON WORK DURING MIT VISIT. COMMENT: AUDIBERT'S RESPONSE IS THOUGHT TO SIGNIFY THAT (A) FOR THE PRESENT, FRENCH ARE NOT SEEKING A CLOSER ASSOCIATION WITH THIS ACTIVITY; (B) FRENCH, AT UNCLASSIFIED

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LEAST AUDIBERT, WISH TO SEE SEDES WORK WITH MIT, BUT WOULD LIKE TO DO SO IN A WAY WHICH AVOIDS THEIR BECOMING COMMITTED TOO DEEPLY. 3, \$:9..3,5. HELMAN INDICATED TO AUDIBERT THAT PROPOSAL WOULD BE TRANSMITTED TO AID/W ON BASIS THAT GOF WOULD HIRE SEDES SERVICES FOR LIAISON DURING VISIT. MIT COULD THEN DECIDE WHETHER AND IN WHAT MANNER THEY MIGHT WISH TO ESTABLISH ANY FURTHER SERVICE ARRANGEMENT, AND IF SO, SUB CONTRACT WITH SEDES.

5. AUDIBERT WAS THEN ASKED TO CONSIDER WHAT FRENCH EXPERTS, IN UNIVERSITY, PRIVATE SECTOR AND GOVERNMENT, INCLUDING FAC, MIGHT HAVE PARTICULAR EXPERTISE WHICH WOULD BE VALUABLE TO MIT'S WORK. SPECIFICALLY, AUDIBERT AGREED TO THINK ABOUT SELECT INDIVIDUALS WHO MIGHT BE SUITABLE FOR ADVISORY COMMITTEE OR ACTION GROUP. AUDIBERT ANTICIPATES THAT MIT GROUP WILL RAISE THIS QUESTION WITH HIM AND IT WOULD NOT BE INAPPROPRIATE, IF MIT SO DESIRES, TO INDICATE THAT IN SEEKING LIST OF EXPERTS SEVERAL FRENCH GOV'T PERSONNEL, CITING NAMES, HAD BEEN MENTIONED AND TO ASK AUDIBERT WHETHER SOME ARRANGEMENT MIGHT BE POSSIBLE FOR THEIR USE.

6. RE FED, MARTIN REQUESTING FED MEETING WITH ENTIRE TASK FORCE ON WED. AFTERNOON, WITH POSSIBLE CARRY-OVER TO THURS. A.M. SUBSEQUENTLY, SEPARATE MEETINGS FOR MIT GROUPS WOULD BE SET UP FIRST WITH FERRANDI AND/OR WIRSING, THEN WITH TECHNICIANS. FED HAS BEEN ASKED TO IDENTIFY EUROPEAN SOURCES OF INFORMATION AND EXPERTISE; MIT SHOULD RAISE QUESTION WED. WITH FED. SUGGESTION REF G RE PIRZIO BIROLI MEETING WITH MIT WILL BE RAISED WITH FED WEDNESDAY.

7. SURVEY TEAM MEMBERS SHOULD MAKE CERTAIN THEY HAVE CONFIRMED RESERVATIONS FROM PARIS TO FORT LAMY. IRWIN

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